Market share in export of spices

*91. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that out market share in export of spices *vis-a-vis* other spices exporting countries is declining every year due to inferior quality of our produce; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken/initiated to reverse this trend as also to improve the quality of spices produced in the country so as to effectively meet the competition in the International market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The estimates of world import of spices *vis-a-vis* export of Indian spices do not show that India's market share in export of spices *vis-a-vis* other spices exporting countries is declining, as is evident from the following data:-

(Qty. tons)

Year	Estimated world import of spices	Indian export	Estimated share of India in world trade
1999-00	4,80,000	2,36,142	49%
2000-01	5,00,000	2,30,000	46%
2001-02	5,15,000	2,45,000	48%

SOURCE: Spices Board, Cochin/ITC Geneva.

However, the Government has taken a number of steps to improve the quality of spices including training on quality parameters and hygienic production of spices; awarding 'Spice House Certificates' and 'Indian Spices Logo' to exporters of quality spices; interaction with international bodies to bring awareness among the exporters on quality requirements and establishing quality evaluation laboratory in the Spices Board. Besides, the Government, through its agencies, has been providing funds under a number of Plan schemes for improving the quality of spices exported.